#E1-705 RY

February 24, 2004

Attention: Rini Ghosh

Re: Finance Docket No. 34284

Dear Ms. Ghosh:

In response to the Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement, I am submitting the following to be considered in the formal scoring process.

I believe Vulcan's proposed quarry and proposed SGR rail line, regardless of where the railroad is constructed, are connected actions, and should be studied in the same Environmental Impact Statement. The study should include direct impacts and alternatives to both projects, including no quarry and no rail line at all.

I am a forty-five year old science teacher and mother of four. My family has property close to the proposed quarry site. My major concerns are safety of the young people in the area and the safety of the water supply of the region. First, should rail lines be built across farm to market roads traveled by younger drivers, the number of fatalities could rise due to vehicle train accidents. Second, removing up to two hundred feet of limestone and surface formations will allow contaminants easier access to the major water supply of the region – the Edwards Aquifer. From maps provided, the quarry would be built in part on the recharge zone of the Edwards Aquifer. As my family looks for water options on our property, we would have to go to extra expenses to get water from the Edwards formation. Expenses incurred due to extra precautions to exclude contaminants from this precious regional resource. Perhaps a quarry site could be found that would not impact the major regional water supply and have a shorter distance to a rail line.

Sincerely, Dubul Cless

cc. U.S. Congressman Henry Bonilla U.S. Senator John Cornyn Texas Senator Frank Madla Texas Representative Timoteo Garza Medina County Judge Jim Barden Medina County Commissioner Royce Hartman